erans of the Spanish-American War have repeatedly and generously testified. But as General Aguinaldo said when he laid down his arms, the Filipinos found their advance along the path of their aspirations for freedom impeded by an irresistible force. Wisely, therefore, the Filipino leaders sought to obtain by peaceful methods what could never have been obtained by force, and won in this game by adroit and skilful moves,

THE EPHEMERAL PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC [4]

Due to the collapse of the Revolution, the Philippine Republic was little more than a name. It was notable because it afforded an opportunity for the display of forceful leadership, promulgated valuable state papers, and consolidated individual Filipinos into a nation with a common ideal, the independence of their country.

Soon after General Aguinaldo returned to the Philippines from Hongkong to take up the fight against the Spaniards, he proclaimed a dictatorial government. Within a month, that is, on June 23, 1898, he changed from a dictatorship to a revolutionary government. In turn, the revolutionary government evolved into the Philippine Republic, at least in name. The pressure of the American forces permitted of little concrete accomplishment by the short-lived republic.

General Aguinaldo, it should be stated, was the Captain General of the Filipino forces, the supreme head of the dictatorial government, and the President of the Philippine Republic. He performed his duties with the assistance of army

officers and a civilian cabinet. The capital of the revolutionary
government was at Malolos, Bulacan. There a revolutionary
congress assembled and drafted what is known as the Malolos
Constitution for the Philippine Republic.

The character of the Philippine Republic has been much

[4] See Emilio Aguinaldo, *Risena Veridica de la Revolution Filfyina* ("True Version o£ the Philippine Revolution") (1899), and Apolinario Mabini, *La Revolution Filtyina* ("The Philippine Revolution") (1902).